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Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

March 29, 2003

Representative William Delahunt  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Delahunt,

I am angry about my country's unilateral aggressive war against Iraq and heartsick about its victims on both sides. You have been an outspoken opponent of this war, and I am proud that you represent me in the Congress. I now ask you: How can we stop it?

First, can the Congress rescind its previous authorization of military force in Iraq?

Second, can the President be held accountable for waging aggressive war in violation of the Charter of the United Nations? The US is signatory to that charter, with Senate endorsement, and if I understand matters aright, the Constitution brings behavior that violates such treaties, charters, and agreements within the power of the US judiciary.

Third, if the President were to be found to have violated charters, treaties, and agreements endorsed by the Senate, would that constitute grounds for an article of impeachment initiated within the House of Representatives? I suspect that the answer is a matter of politics rather than constitutional law, but is it a useful approach to ending the war?

Finally, can the House of Representatives entertain a vote of no confidence – which, within our system, would be no more than an expression of opinion – in the President and his advisors with respect to the bombing and invasion of Iraq?

These questions about constitutional law and congressional procedure are intended to suggest action, so please don't take time out to reply. The important thing is that you work with your colleagues to stop this war as soon as possible, by any means available within the laws of our nation and the procedures of the Congress. I believe that the vast majority of your constituents on Martha's Vineyard would support you in this endeavor. I cannot imagine a higher priority.

Sincerely yours,  
[REDACTED]